

2010 Rental Survey Methodology

Data Sources

We used listings from three sources:

- 1) Craig's List during the week of April 12-18, 2010
- 2) April 11, 2010 Santa Barbara News Press Sunday House & Home Section
- 3) April 8, 2010 Santa Barbara Independent

Geographic Area

Our geographic area covers the entire South Coast of Santa Barbara County – from Gaviota through Carpinteria (excluding Lompoc, Santa Ynez Valley, and North County).

Types of Housing

We sorted the listings by housing type – apartments, condos, duplexes, houses and rooms/shared housing and set up subcategories within each housing type based on size, ranging from studios to 4-bedrooms. Listings for shared single rooms and listings for furnished houses were excluded.

Methodology

Calculating the Median: Within each subcategory (1-bedroom apartments, 2-bedroom condos, 3-bedroom houses, rooms, etc.), we sorted all the rents in ascending order and calculated the median as the middle entry of the listed rents. When the number of entries in a subcategory was an even number, we used the lesser of the two middle entries.

Sample Size: If the number of entries in a subcategory was less than five, then we indicated this on the data table as “NSD” (not sufficient data).

Contributing Staff

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